State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 PH (517) 373.1635 | FAX (517) 373.3300 www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/vanwoerkom/

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Sen. Van Woerkom urges governor to sign tax exemption on research grants

Contact: Kirk Hanna

(517) 373-1635

LANSING –Small businesses conducting research in the state of Michigan would be exempt from paying taxes on their government-funded research grants under a bill presented to the governor today, said Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores.

"In order to secure the future of our families and communities, we must consider long-term strategies for economic development," said Van Woerkom, sponsor of the bill. "Exempting research grants from state taxes will help keep Michigan workers and resources in the forefront of the research industry."

Senate Bill 1116 is a key component of the JOBS Action Plan, a Republican legislative initiative designed to spur economic growth by creating new jobs, saving existing jobs and promoting a healthier business climate in Michigan.

The governor was presented with numerous bills from the JOBS package today, including legislation aimed at exempting small start-up businesses from certain taxes during their first five years of operation, expanding the use of private labs for state business and making the permit process for businesses more timely and efficient.

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